

# **NEWS**

# Treasurer and Tax Collector Joseph Kelly

437 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

May 31, 2016

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 2015-16 NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY

Si desea obtener información adicional sobre este aviso o si necesita la información traducida en español, por favor llame al 1(213) 974-2111.

**JOSEPH KELLY**, Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector, is in the process of mailing 146,925 Notices of Delinquency to Los Angeles County taxpayers. The notice will inform them that their property taxes for the 2015-16 tax year are delinquent and will default on July 1, 2016. At that time, we will impose a \$15 redemption fee and additional penalties of 1.5 percent per month on the defaulted taxes. The notice will include the attached insert which provides important detailed information regarding payment options, office locations and office hours.

We caution taxpayers that if residential or agricultural property remains tax defaulted for more than five years or vacant residential lots or commercial property for more than three years, we will sell the property at a public auction in accordance with State law.

If taxpayers wish to discuss the receipt of the notice or require additional assistance, they may call the Property Tax Information Line at 1(888) 807-2111. Information is also available on the Los Angeles County Property Tax Portal at <u>lacountypropertytax.com</u>.

Taxpayers can now subscribe to receive emails from the Treasurer and Tax Collector regarding special notices and upcoming events, such as annual property tax deadline reminders, office location updates and other news. To subscribe to receive these notices, go to Email Notification Service at <a href="ttc.lacounty.gov/eNotify">ttc.lacounty.gov/eNotify</a> and enter your information.

<u>PRESS RELEASE UPDATE</u> - To receive future press release notices via email, please send your company name and email address to <u>rjohnson@ttc.lacounty.gov</u>.

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# JOSEPH KELLY TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

P.O. BOX 512102, LOS ANGELES, CA 90051-0102 FOR ASSISTANCE CALL 1(213) 974-2111 OR 1(888) 807-2111, ON THE WEB AT <u>lacountypropertytax.com</u>

#### NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY

In accordance with California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 2621, the Notice of Delinquency reminds taxpayers that their property taxes are delinquent and will default on July 1, 2016. If payment is not received or United States Postal Service (USPS) postmarked by June 30, 2016, on July 1, 2016, a \$15 redemption fee will be imposed and defaulted taxes will be subject to additional penalties of 1.5 percent per month.

Vacant residential lots and commercial property may be sold at public auction, if the property has been in a tax-defaulted status for three years. Residential and agricultural property may be sold at public auction, if the property has been in a tax-defaulted status for five years.

# **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

**Pay Online** – To make payments online, go to <u>lacountypropertytax.com</u>, and select "Pay Online" under "Payment Options." There is no charge for electronic check payments. You will need to use a Personal Identification Number (PIN), which is printed on the enclosed tax notice, to complete the transaction. Each transaction is limited to \$999,999.99.

You may also pay online by using a credit card (American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa) or Visa Debit card. However, there are processing fees when paying by credit/debit card. Each credit/debit card transaction is limited to \$99,999.99, including all service fees. Electronic payments can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and payments are accepted until 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on June 30, 2016.

By Mail – Please use the enclosed envelope and include the payment stub from the notice. Do not attach staples, clips, tape, or correspondence. Property tax payments must be received or USPS postmarked by June 30, 2016. If mailing your payment near June 30, 2016, be sure to obtain a certificate of mailing from the USPS to reflect a timely payment. If a payment is received after June 30, 2016, with no postmark, the payment is considered late and penalties will be imposed, in accordance with State law. Taxpayers who send a payment by mail are cautioned that the USPS only postmarks certain mail depending on the type of postage used, and may not postmark mail on the same day deposited by a taxpayer. To assist taxpayers in understanding how to avoid penalties that could result from postmark issues, the Tax Collector has compiled important related information on how to "Avoid Penalties by Understanding Postmarks." Visit our website at <a href="ttc.lacounty.gov/Proptax/Postmarks.htm">ttc.lacounty.gov/Proptax/Postmarks.htm</a>.

Pay by Credit Card or Visa Debit Card over the Telephone – Credit cards (American Express, MasterCard, and Visa) and Visa Debit card payments are accepted over the telephone through a third-party vendor who charges a fee to utilize this service. To pay by telephone, call toll-free 1(888) 473-0835. You will need your Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) Number and a credit card or Visa Debit card to complete the transaction. Please retain the confirmation number for future reference. If you do not have the current year bill, see "How to Contact our Office" on the reverse side. Your current secured payment cannot be more than \$99,999.99.

**Pay in Person** – Cash or check is accepted at 225 North Hill Street, First Floor Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, excluding Los Angeles County holidays. Make your payment early to avoid long waits at the cashier windows.

**Online Banking or Bill Payment Services** – We do not recommend using these services to pay property taxes. The envelopes used by banking institutions are not postmarked by the USPS. In the absence of a postmark, we determine penalties exclusively based on the date we receive payment.

**Electronic Check Processing** – When you provide a check as payment, you authorize the County of Los Angeles to either use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your bank account or process the payment as a check transaction. If we use information from your check to make an electronic fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your bank account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution. The transaction will appear on your bank statement as "LA County Treasurer."

#### MILITARY ACTIVE DUTY EXEMPTIONS

Under provisions of the Federal Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, active military personnel, regardless of the duration of military service or financial status, qualify for a reduction in the interest charged on unpaid property taxes. Please call 1(213) 974-2111 or toll-free at 1(888) 807-2111 for more information.

#### INSTALLMENT PLAN OPTION FOR DEFAULTED TAXES FROM A PRIOR YEAR

You may be eligible to open an Installment Plan of Redemption and pay the defaulted taxes over a five-year period for vacant residential lots and commercial property that is less than three years in default, and residential and agricultural property that is less than five years in default. This plan will prevent the property from being sold at a public auction. For more information on the installment plan program, call 1(213) 974-2111 or toll-free at 1(888) 807-2111.

#### **VOLUNTARY THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATION PROGRAM**

In the event your property becomes tax defaulted and/or subject to sale due to a tax delinquency, you can designate a Third Party (e.g., a friend, family member, or agency) to receive copies of the default notices so they can remind you of your property tax obligation. Please call 1(213) 974-2111 or toll-free at 1(888) 807-2111 for additional information. You can also complete and submit this application online at ttc.lacounty.gov/Proptax/ThirdPartyReminderNotification.htm.

#### **GENERAL TAX INFORMATION**

For your convenience, general prerecorded information, including taxes due, is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through our Property Tax Automated Telephone System. Call 1(213) 974-2111, if outside of Los Angeles County, or 1(888) 807-2111, if in Los Angeles County. Information is also available on our website at <a href="mailto:lacountypropertytax.com">lacountypropertytax.com</a>. Anyone who is hearing impaired and has TDD equipment may leave a message at 1(213) 974-2196, or use California Relay Services at 1(800) 735-2929.

Para su comodidad tenemos información general pregrabada que incluye fecha de vencimiento de los impuestos, disponible las 24 horas al día, 7 días a la semana, vía el sistema telefónico PropTax 1(213) 974-2111 si marca fuera del Condado de Los Angeles, si marca dentro del Condado de Los Angeles marca 1(888) 807-2111. También disponible esta nuestra página web <u>lacountypropertytax.com</u>. Todos aquellos con problemas auditivos y que tienen el equipo de Telecomunicaciones Para Personas Sordas dejen su mensaje al 1(213) 974-2196 o sirvanse a usar el Servicio de Telecomunicaciones 1(800) 735-2929.

### **HOW TO CONTACT OUR OFFICE**

Visit us: 225 North Hill Street, First Floor Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Call us: 1(213) 974-2111, if outside of Los Angeles County, or 1(888) 807-2111, if in Los Angeles County.

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use California Relay Services at 1(800) 735-2929.

Email us: <u>info@ttc.lacounty.gov</u>

Fax us: 1(213) 620-7948

Write us: Treasurer and Tax Collector, P.O. Box 512102, Los Angeles, CA 90051-0102

Website: lacountypropertytax.com

# **EMAIL NOTIFICATION SERVICE**

You can now subscribe to receive emails from the Treasurer and Tax Collector regarding special notices and upcoming events, such as annual property tax deadline reminders, office location updates and other news. To subscribe to receive these notices, go to Email Notification Service at ttc.lacounty.gov/eNotify and enter your information.

### **REQUIREMENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TAX AGENTS**

Effective July 1, 2013, any person who is employed, is under contract, or otherwise receives compensation to communicate directly, or through agents, employees or subcontractors, with any County official for the purpose of influencing official action is required to register as a Tax Agent pursuant to County Code 2.165 under the Tax Agent Registration Program. For more information, please visit the Assessment Appeals Board website at <a href="mailto:bos.lacounty.gov/Services/AssessmentAppeals/TaxAgentRegistration.aspx">bos.lacounty.gov/Services/AssessmentAppeals/TaxAgentRegistration.aspx</a>. The listing of registered Tax Agents is accessible online at <a href="mailto:lacounty.gov">lacounty.gov</a>.